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Amendments to the claims:

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application. Please amend claims 1 and 20 according to the following:

1. (currently amended) A surgical device for use in minimally invasive surgery and having a portion insertable through a surgical incision in a wall of a surgical cavity and within the surgical cavity, the device comprising a sleeve having an exit aperture and an entry aperture, the sleeve being shaped and dimensioned to permit the passage of a hand therethrough; and a distensible member secured to or formed integrally about the sleeve adjacent the exit aperture; wherein the distensible member is positioned on the sleeve to be locatable, in use, through the surgical cavity wall and internally within the surgical cavity, and is sufficiently distensible to distend the surgical cavity an amount which will allow hand assisted surgery to be performed within the surgical cavity without the use of insufflation gas inserted in the surgical cavity.

2. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the distensible member is generally annular in form and is located circumferentially about the sleeve adjacent the exit aperture.

3. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the distensible member comprises a plurality of distensible sections arranged in an annular array or in a series of annular arrays adjacent the exit aperture.

4. (original) A surgical device according to claim 3 in which the plurality of distensible sections may be individually, sequentially or simultaneously distended.

5. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the distensible member is secured to an exterior of the sleeve and is arranged to distend away from the arm, in use.

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6. (previous presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the entry aperture has a larger cross sectional area than the exit aperture.

7. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is substantially frustum shaped.

8. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is formed from a flexible material.

9. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is shaped and dimensioned to permit the passage of a surgeon's hand therethrough and to accommodate at least a surgeon's forearm, in use.

10. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is formed from a fluid impermeable material.

11. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the device further comprises a reinforcing member located about the entry aperture of the sleeve, in order to hold open the entry aperture.

12. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the device comprises means operable to seal the exit aperture from the entry aperture.

13. (original) A surgical device according to claim 12 in which the sealing means comprises a one way valve.

14. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is provided with a lubricant on an interior surface thereof.

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15. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the device further comprises means for conveying a fibre optic camera along the length of the sleeve.

16. (original) A surgical device according to claim 15 in which the conveying means comprises a passage extending along the length of the sleeve.

17. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the device further comprises a cover releasably securable about the entry aperture, in order to fluid-tightly seal the entry aperture.

18. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the sleeve is substantially transparent.

19. (previously presented) A surgical device according to claim 1 in which the device further comprises a cuff located circumferentially or annularly about the sleeve adjacent the exit aperture of the sleeve.

20. (currently amended) A method of distending a surgical cavity, the method comprising the steps of;

providing a surgical device according to claim 1;

passing a hand through the sleeve of the device;

inserting at least the distensible member of the device through the surgical incision in the wall of the surgical cavity and into the surgical cavity; and

distending the distensible member an amount which will allow hand assisted surgery to be performed within the surgical cavity.